REMARKS

Claims 3-14, and 18 are pending in this application. Claims 3-14 and 18 stand rejected and claim 16 is objected to. Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claim 16. By this Amendment, claims 2 and 16 have been canceled without prejudice and claims 3, 13, and 18 have been amended. The amendments made to the claims do not alter the scope of these claims, nor have these amendments been made to define over the prior art. Rather, the amendments to the claims have been made for cosmetic reasons to improve the form thereof. In light of the amendments and remarks set forth below, Applicants respectfully submit that each of the pending claims is in immediate condition for allowance.

Applicants note that the content of claim 16 has been indicated as being allowable by the Examiner. To expedite prosecution of this case, Applicants have incorporated the limitation of claim 16 into independent claims 13 and 18. As such, Applicants respectfully submit that the present case is in immediate condition for allowance.

Applicants have responded to all of the rejections and objections recited in the Office Action. Reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance for all of the pending claims are therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

If the Examiner believes an interview would be of assistance, the Examiner is welcome to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Dated: February 28, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

/Ian R. Blum/

By_____

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